By the King.

THe Kings moſt Excellent Maieſtie, finding that the Infection of the Plague is at this preſent diſperſed and ſcattered, aſwell into ſeuerall Pariſhes of the Citie of London, as into ſundry other parts of the Kingdome, and now lately come into ſeuerall houſes of the Citie of Weſtminſter, ſome of them not farre from the place where the Courts of Juſtice are vſually holden; And foreſeeing, that if the generall reſort, and concourſe of people from all parts of the Kingdome to Weſtminſter, for the occaſions of the next Terme, ſhould be continued in the ordinary courſe, the ſame might bee an occaſion of further diſperſing the ſayd Infection, aſwell in the ſaid Cities of London and Weſtminſter, as in other places, eſpecially in the Through-fare Townes, which yet (by Gods mercie) ſtand free; And hoping that by the deferring and putting off the buſineſſe of the next Terme of S. Michael, for ſome of the firſt Returnes thereof, and thereby keeping the Sicke from the whole, till the coldneſſe of the yeere come further on, may (by Gods bleſſing) bee a good meane to preuent the further ſpreading of that Contagion, whereby His Maieſtie, the Queene, and Prince, may afterwards with more ſafety come & abide at their vſuall places of Reſidence & acceſſe, and His Subiects, aſwell for their Suits in Law, as for their Trade and Commerce, reſort to the ſayd Cities of London and Weſtminſter, Is therefore of his eſpeciall fauour and Princely goodnes, reſolued to Adiourne the ſayd Terme of S. Michael, (That is to ſay) in, and from the Vtas thereof, vnto the fourth Returne of the ſayd Terme, called Menſe Michaelis next comming, which his Maieſtie ſignifieth to all his louing Subiects of this his Realme, to the intent that they and euery of them, who haue cauſe or commandement to appeare in any of his Highneſſe Courts at Weſtminſter, in, or at any day or time from and after the ſayd Vtas of S. Michael, may tarry at their dwellings, or where their buſineſſe otherwiſe ſhall lye, without reſorting to any of the ſaid Courts for that cauſe before the ſayd Returne of Menſe Michaelis next comming; And that without danger of forfeiture, penaltie, or contempt to bee incurred towards his Maieſtie in that behalfe.

146

53655

53655

And neuertheleſſe his Maieſties pleaſure is, that two of his Juſtices (that is to ſay) of either Bench one, ſhall the firſt day of the ſaid Terme of S. Michael, called Octabis Michaelis, according to the ancient order of the Lawes keepe the Eſſoynes of the ſaid Octabis Michaelis. At which Vtas of S. Michael Writs of Adiournement ſhall be directed to the ſaid Juſtices, giuing them authoritie to Adiourne the ſaid Terme of S. Michael from the Vtas thereof, vntill the ſaid fourth Returne of Menſe Michaelis (as aforeſaid.) And the ſaid Adiournement ſhall be made in the firſt day of the ſaid Vtas, commonly called the day of Eſſoynes.

And further his Maieſties pleaſure is, that all matters, Cauſes and Suites depending in any of his other Courts, betweene party and party, aſwell in his Highnes Courts of Chancery, Starchamber and Exchequer, as in the Courts of Wards and Liueries, Duchy of Lancaſter, and Court of Requeſts ſhall haue continuance, and the parties ſhall haue day from the date of theſe preſents, vntill the ſaid fourth Returne, as before is ſaid.

Prouided alwayes, and his Maieſties Pleaſure and Commandement is, That all Collectors, Receiuers, Sheriffes and other Accomptants, and all other perſons that ſhould or ought to accompt or pay any ſumme or ſummes of money in any of his Maieſties Courts of Exchequer, Court of Wards and Liueries, and of his Duchy of Lancaſter, or in any of them, or to enter into any Accompt in any of the ſaid Courts, ſhall repayre vnto the accuſtomed places at Weſtminſter where his Highneſſe hath appointed ſuch Officers and Miniſters, as for that purpoſe his Maieſtie hath thought expedient, and there to pay and doe in euery behalfe, as though no ſuch Proclamation of Adiournement had beene had or made.

And his Highneſſe further pleaſure and Commandement is, That all Sheriffes ſhall returne their Writts and Proces againſt all ſuch Accomptants and Debtors, at the dayes therein appointed. And if any perſon or perſons who ought to Accompt or pay any ſumme or ſummes of money to his Maieſtie in any of the Courts and places aforeſaid, doe make default therein, That then his Highneſſe Writts and Proceſſe ſhall be awarded againſt them, and duly ſerued and Returned by the Sheriffes and other Officers, as the ſame ſhould haue been if this preſent Proclamation had not beene made. And if any Sheriffe or other Officer ſhall make default, or bee negligent in Seruing, Executing, or Returning of any the Writts or Proceſſe aforeſaid, That then euery ſuch Sheriffe and other Officer ſhall incurre ſuch paines and penalties as by the ſaid Courts, or any of them ſhall bee Taxed and Aſſeſſed; willing and commanding all and euery his Maieſties Sheriffes, Officers, Miniſters and Subiects to whom it doth or ſhall appertaine to obſerue and keepe their Aſſemblies and Apparances with all their Returnes and Certificates in his Highneſſe ſaid Courts at Weſtminſter, in Menſe Michaelis next comming, then and there to be holden and kept, and there to doe their Offices and Duties in euery behalfe, in like manner and forme, as they ſhould or ought to haue done if this preſent Proclamation had not beene had or made, as thy will anſwere to the contrarie at their perils.

And further his moſt Excellent Maieſtie, vpon the ſame reaſons, and out of the ſame prouident care to take away all other occaſions of needleſſe reſort and concourſe in this time of danger, doth hereby ſtraitly charge and command that no perſon or perſons vpon pretence of ſeeking helpe or Cure of the diſeaſe commonly called The Kings Euill, doe preſume or attempt to come to his Maieſties Court, or to the Cities of London or Weſtminſter for that purpoſe before Palme Sunday next comming, vpon paine of his Maieſties high diſpleaſure, his Maieſtie

53655

hereby declaring himselfe, that his resolution is not to sit for hearing vntill after that day; And therefore his Maiestie doeth further charge and command all his Officers and Ministers to whom the same may appertaine to make stay of all such as shall be comming against this his Royall Commandement, and returne them backe to the places from whence they came, with such condigne punishment for their misdemeanour, as they shall thinke fit.

And lastly, because his Maiestie hath obserued, that diuers Noblemen, Knights, and other persons of qualitie, haue beene accustomed towards the Winter season, to giue ouer their House-keeping and hospitality in the Countrey where they dwell, and to come vp and liue or sojourne at London or Westminster, or other Cities and Townes; A thing which hath beene vsually forbidden, not onely in the times of the late Queene ELIZABETH, and of his Maiesties Father (of blessed memorie,) but in the times of other his Royall Predecessors, and is of very euill consequence, the Winter time being a time when the Countrey hath most need of their Residence and keeping amongst their Neighbours, and attending the publique Seruices and occasions thereof, but aboue all other times, is not to bee permitted in times of Infection and Dearth; His Maiesties expresse pleasure and Will is, and hee doth hereby straitly charge and command (for the reasons and considerations aforesayd) That they continue at their vsuall dwellings and habitations in the Countrey for the Winter season now comming, without remouing themselues and their Families from the places of their abode to London or Westminster, or other Cities and great Townes, sauing that such as for attending their Suits in Law, or other iust cause shall bee occasioned thereunto, may come vp to London or Westminster, leauing their Families in the Countrey, and to returne againe thither after their businesse dispatched, aswell to auoyd their owne danger, as to be a comfort and reliefe to such of their poore Neighbours as shall stand in neede thereof; And if they haue any place of authority, (as being Iustices of Peace, or other Officers) to take due care aswell for preuenting the further spreading of the Plague, as to see that the Markets be well serued with Corne and prouisions at reasonable Rates and Prices: All which his Maiesty straitly chargeth and commandeth to bee duely obserued by all such whom the same shall any way concerne, vpon paine of his Maiesties high displeasure, and of such further punishment, as by the Lawes, or his Maiesties Royall Prerogatiue may bee inflicted vpon them, for contemning or disobeying this his Maiesties Commandement at their perils.

Giuen at his Maiesties Court at Wansted, the ninth day of September, 1630. in the sixt yeere of his Maiesties Reigne of Great Britaine, France and Ireland.

God saue the King.

¶ Imprinted at London by Robert Barker, Printer to the Kings most Excellent Maiestie: and by the Assignes of Iohn Bill. M.DC.XXX.

53655

53655